

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1, 7 and 9-11 have been canceled.

Claim 8 has been amended into independent form. Claims 2-6 have each been amended to depend on Claim 8.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. With entry thereof, Claims 2-6, 8 and 12 will be pending in the application.

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1-7 and 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. 2002/0086138 (Iijima), is respectfully traversed. Indeed, the rejection is now moot in view of the above-discussed amendment, which limits the claimed subject matter to that in Claim 8 or Claim 12, not subject to this rejection. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Applicants respectfully reiterate that the term “on” would be well-understood when taken in context with the description of the invention in the specification. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The objection to the amendment filed November 13, 2006 under 35 U.S.C. § 132 as introducing new matter into the specification, is respectfully traversed. According to 35 U.S.C. 371(c) and 37 C.F.R. 1.495(c), Applicants entering the national stage in the United States are required to file an English translation of the international application if the international application was filed in another application and was not published under PCT Article 21(2) in English. Thus, the present national stage application is such an application. See also M.P.E.P. 1893.01(d). As confirmed therein, the translation **must** be a translation of the international application as filed or with any changes which have been properly accepted under PCT Rule 26 or any rectifications which have been properly accepted under PCT Rule 91 (emphasis added).

The objected-to amendment changed the second sentence of the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 16 to:

The functional paint is applied onto the support or an intermediate layer formed on the support and dried to form a layer containing the functional fine particles.

The underlined term appears in the corresponding international application from which the present application is the national stage, i.e., PCT/JP03/09216, filed July 18, 2003.

Reply to Final Office Action of January 29, 2007

Submitted herewith is a copy of page 12 of WO 2004/009352, which is the publication of said international application, with an indication of where the above-underlined term is supported. The above-underlined term is also supported in Figs. 2 and 3 of said international application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

Regarding paragraph 2 of the Office Action, the trademark terms are capitalized. It is respectfully submitted that the disclosure of the trademarked products *per se* is sufficient to enable persons skilled in the art to use applicable silicone resins, acrylic monomers, and acrylic resins. Applicants reiterate that such adhesives are well-known in the art and one skilled in the art could choose other applicable resins and monomers by nothing more than routine experimentation. Thus, to the extent paragraph 2 of the Office Action is intended to state a rejection or an objection, it is respectfully requested that it be withdrawn.

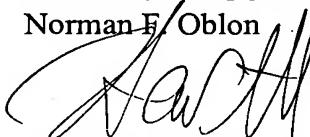
All of the presently-pending claims in this application are now believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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系 (P Z T) 、ジルコン酸鉛系、ランタン添加チタン酸ジルコン酸鉛系 (P L Z T) 、ケイ酸マグネシウム系、鉛含有ペロブスカイト化合物等の誘電体ないしは強誘電体の微粒子が用いられる。この製造方法の適用によって、誘電体特性ないしは強誘電体特性の向上が得られる。

5 各種機能を発現する金属酸化物層の製造においては、酸化鉄 (Fe_2O_3) 、酸化ケイ素 (SiO_2) 、酸化アルミニウム (Al_2O_3) 、二酸化チタン (TiO_2) 、酸化チタン (TiO) 、酸化亜鉛 (ZnO) 、酸化ジルコニウム (ZrO_2) 、酸化タンクステン (WO_3) 等の金属酸化物の微粒子が用いられる。この製造方法の適用によって、膜における金属酸化物の充填度が上がるため、各機能が向上する。例えば、触媒を担持させた SiO_2 、 Al_2O_3 を用いた場合には、実用強度を有する多孔質触媒層が得られる。 TiO_2 を用いた場合には、光触媒機能の向上が得られる。また、 WO_3 を用いた場合には、エレクトロクロミック表示素子での発色作用の向上が得られる。

10 15 また、エレクトロルミネッセンス層の製造においては、硫化亜鉛 (ZnS) 微粒子が用いられる。この製造方法の適用によって、塗布法による安価なエレクトロルミネッセンス層の製造を行うことができる。

18 本発明において、目的に応じて、上記各種の機能性微粒子から選ばれる機能性微粒子を分散した液を機能性塗料として用いる。この機能性塗料を支持体又は支持体上に設けられた中間層上に、塗布、乾燥し、機能性微粒子含有層を形成する。その後、前記機能性微粒子含有層を圧縮し、機能性微粒子の圧縮層を形成して機能性層を得る。導電性微粒子などの機能性微粒子を分散する液体としては、特に限定されるとなく、既知の各種液体を使用することができる。例えば、液体として、ヘキサン等の飽和炭化水素類、トルエン、キシレン等の芳香族炭化水素類、メタノール、エタノール、プロパンノール、ブタノール等のアルコール類、アセトン、メチルエチルケトン (MEK) 、メチルイソブチルケトン、シイソブチルケトン等のケ